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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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St. Paul's Chapel is located on the southwest corner of Maryland Route 178 and Crownsville Road.

St. Paul's, Crownsville, is a small, board and batten, frame church composed of a simple rectangular nave, a small west entrance porch, a small deep chancel on the east end, and two very small utility sections added to the sides of the chancel on the east end of the nave. There is one diamond shaped window above the pointed arched entrance porch, and there is a simple belfry above the porch which is surmounted by a cross. There are three lancet windows on each side of the nave, the diamond shaped pane in each contains stained glass of geometric patterns. There is a triple lancet with stained glass on the chancel (east) wall, in memory of Reverend B.T.H. Maycock. There is one pointed side door on the north side at the rear (east) of the church.

The interior is plain and there are simple white, slip pews.
The ceiling at the rear (west) of the church is lower and is supported by two square columns which screen off a narthex. There is a simple marble font.

There is a small cemetery to the east of the church which dates from the 1860's.

St. Paul's Chapel, although lacking a wealth of ornament, would appear to be one of the more modest, and more successful, designs taken from Richard Upjohn's Rural Architecture (1852), the book which supplied design suggestions to small parishes desiring a church of proper proportions according to Ecclesiological principles. The proportional relationship of the major elements of St. Paul's Chapel strongly suggests use of the Upjohn pattern book. Despite its small size, the totality of the design of St. Paul's Chapel results in an architectural integrity rarely achieved in wealthy urban churches.

The stained glass window at St. Paul's was designed by Rowan LeCompte, presently (1969) a stained glass window artisan at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Washington, D.C.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Paul's Chapel may be an example of a church built, not by an architect, but, rather, by following plans of Richard Upjohn, the noted nineteenth century American architect, published in his <u>Rural Architecture</u>.

Upjohn, born in England, came to the United States in 1829 and set up architectural practice in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Five years later Upjohn had moved to New York City where he was working on the designs of Trinity Church (1839-1846) at the top of Wall Street. Modeled on English Gothic examples, Trinity Church inaugurated a new departure in American Gothic Revival. Upjohn was a founder of the American Institute of Architects and its first president (1875-1876). The significance of Upjohn's contribution to American architecture was expanded by his architectural books, such as Rural Architecture (1852). Through the "borrowing" of Upjohn's designs by the readers of his books, his influence on American architecture spread.

The history of St. Paul's Chapel begins in the years immediately before the Civil War. When the Reverend Henry R. Payne was rector for Severn Parish (1858 to 1861) he began holding regular Protestant Episcopal services at Severn, or Old Cross Roads, without a church building. His enthusiasm for this missionary work infected his parishoners who raised \$700 toward the construction of what has become St. Paul's Chapel. On May 10, 1865, the Right Reverend Horatio Southgate, Bishop of Maryland, consecrated the chapel. After the installation of the Reverend B.H.T. Maycock, as rector of Severn Parish from 1884 to 1889, the chancel of the chapel was expanded and enlarged.

For a century St. Paul's Chapel served communicants of Severn Parish. In 1966, at the request of the parishoners of Severn Parish the ownership of St. Paul's was transferred from the parish to the Diocese of Maryland. At this time St. Paul's was used as a chapel for the Crownsville State Hospital. Two years later the Chaplain at the hospital, who was also the Vicar of St. Paul's, discontinued regular hospital use of the

(See Continuation Sheet)

#### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Upjohn, Everard M. Richard Upjohn, Architect and Churchman, 1939.

Stanton, Phoebe. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture, 1968.

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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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#### #8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Chapel although it was not deconsecrated, and is used only for occasional baptisms and weddings.

#### #9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Interview by Beth Grovesnor with Father Cecil Marshall, Chaplin of Crownsville State Hospital and Vicar of St. Paul's Chapel; Father Donald Libby, Rector of Severn Parish, June 24, 1969.

Hall, Thomas W. A History of Severn Parish, Anne Arundel County,
Maryland: From Its Beginning in 1838, Down to About 1890...,
Vol. I, 1909, at St. Stephen's Church, Crownsville,
Maryland.

Maryland Historical Records Survey Project, <u>Inventory of the</u>
Church Archives of Maryland - Protestant Episcopal: Diocese
of Maryland, 1940.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

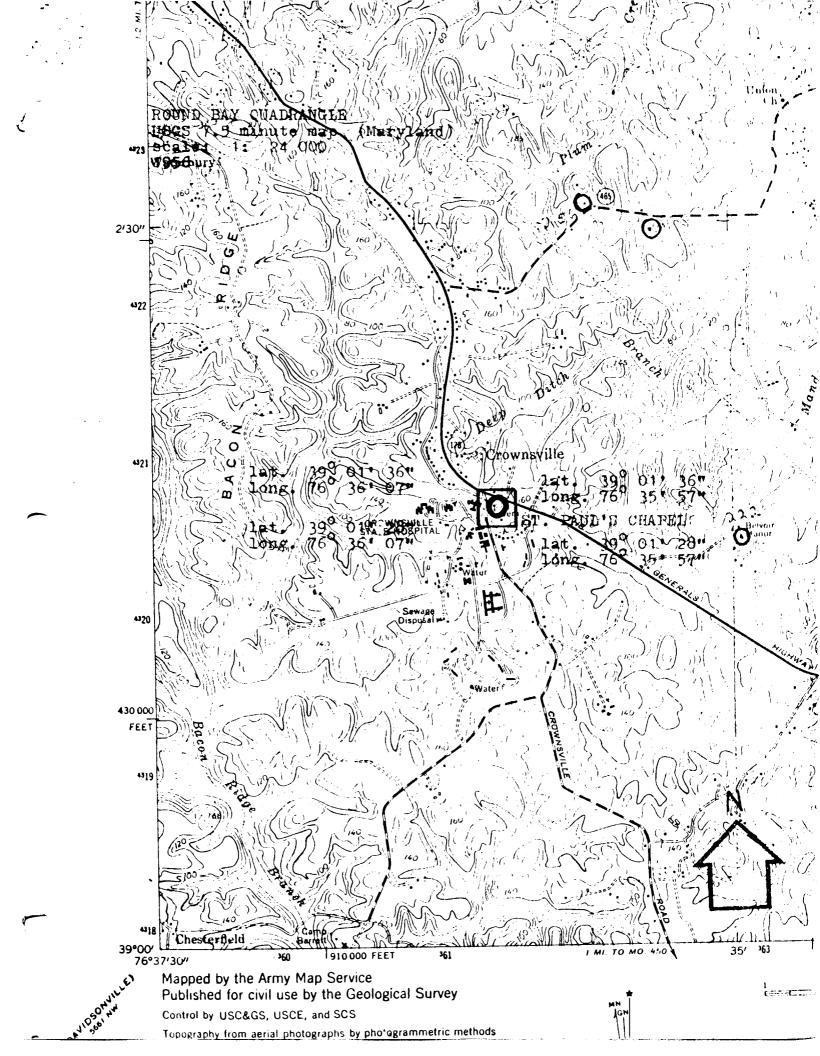
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St. Paul's Chapel, AA - 182

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